

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/792,202

Examiner

John Kim

Applicant(s)

HUANG, CHAO YANG

Art Unit

1723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/26/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 5, 6-7, 10, 11, 14-15, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23 renumbered 1-2, 3, 5-6, 8, 7, 10-11, 13, 12, 4, 9, 14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Norma Henderson on 8/2/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

-Claim 6, line 9: Between "than" and "the", -- the width of -- has been inserted.

line 11: Between "than" and "the", -- the width of -- has been inserted.

-Claim 14, line 3: Between "through" and "the", -- an opening of -- has been inserted.

line 11: Between "than" and "the", -- the width of -- has been inserted.

line 12: After "than", -- the width of -- has been added.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Leventhal (US Pat. No. 2,893,418) is considered the closest prior art to the air purge valve of claim 1, the valve of claim 6 and the filter pump cover of claim 14. Leventhal teaches a valve comprising a valve member (20) e.g. cap and valve stem opposite of the valve member (20) and having two outward-facing inwardly compressible inverse hook at the bottom of the valve stem (see figure 2; col. 2, lines 46-65). Dworatzek et al (US 2004/0217042) and White et al (US Pat. No. 2,036,665) and Hunter et al (US Pat. No. 5,996,608) teach similar valves as the valve of Leventhal. However, none of the above prior arts teach or suggest a screw-threaded portion connected to the valve cap and being interrupted by at least one valve opening. Pillart teaches a valve including screw threaded portion (42) being interrupted by at least one valve opening (46)

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(see Figs. 4, 5A-5B; col. 2, lines 28-47). However, Pillart does neither teach nor suggest that the screw threaded portion (42) is connected to the valve cap and the screw threaded portion (42) does not have inverse hook that are inwardly compressible. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify Leventhal, Dwortzek et al, White et al or Hunter et al to provide a screw threaded portion connected to the valve cap and being interrupted by at least one valve opening because Leventhal has air vent opening (16) in a separate valve member, Dworatzek et al allows air opening between the cap (22) and the plate body of the valve (37) activated by a spring and does not require screw-threaded portion and White et al and Hunter et al are not concerned with an air vent opening in threaded portion.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-1142. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Kim can be reached on 571-272-1142. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


John Kim
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723

JK

August 2, 2006